

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 181681 TOSEC 080252

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DRAFTED BY:S/S-O: DMACK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 181681 TOSEC 080252

NODIS

CHEROKEE

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT TO SECSTATE WASHDC DTG O 011336Z AUG 75

FM CAIRO

QUOTE

SECRET CAIRO 7566;

NODIS/CHEROKEE

DEPT PASS SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG US IS

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

REF: SECTO 8094

1. HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH FAHMY IN ALEXANDRIA TO
INDICATE YOUR VIEW THAT I SHOULD MEET YOU IN BELGRADE AND
TRAVEL THERE COMMERCIALY RATHER THAN BY EGYPTIAN AIRCRAFT
IN ORDER TO AVOID ALERTING THE ISRAELIS THAT SOMETHING IS UP.

I ALSO POINTED OUT THAT YOU CONSIDER IT VERY IMPORTANT TO
BRIEF DINITZ PERSONALLY ON EGYPTIAN REPLY AND THAT

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THIS WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE BEFORE YOU RETURN TO WASHINGTON

NEXT TUESDAY. I EXPRESSED THANKS FOR THE PRESIDENT'S
OFFER AND ASSURED FAHMY WE WOULD STAY IN TOUCH.

2. FAHMY ACCEPTED THIS, BUT EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN THAT
FURTHER ACTIVITY WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL NEXT TUESDAY. HE
PROFESSED TO SEE THIS AS EVIDENCE THAT WE ARE NOT REALLY
INTERESTED IN MOVING FORWARD. I TOLD HIM ANY SUCH
INTERPRETATION IS TOTALLY WRONG. LIKE THE EGYPTIANS, WE WANT
TO MOVE AHEAD RAPIDLY. AS I HAD TOLD THE PRESIDENT, THIS WAS THE
WHOLE PURPOSE OF THE SUGGESTIONS WHICH I CONVEYED YESTERDAY. IT
HAD ALREADY BEEN ANNOUNCED THAT I WOULD MEET YOU IN BELGRADE
AND ANY CHANGE IN VENUE WOULD CERTAINLY BE NOTED. IT WAS NATURAL
THAT YOU WANT TO HANDLE THE MATTER WITH DINITZ, SINCE HE HAS BEEN
INVOLVED IN ALL OF THE EXCHANGES. OUR TACTICS ARE DESIGNED TO
MOVE THINGS FORWARD QUICKLY, YET NOT GIVE THE ISRAELIS THE
IMPRESSION THAT THE EGYPTIANS ARE DESPERATE FOR AN AGREEMENT.
SUCH AN APPROACH, IT SEEMED TO ME, WAS ALSO IN THE EGYPTIAN
BEST INTEREST. FAHMY ULTIMATELY AGREED.

3. HE ASKED THAT I GET IN TOUCH WITH HIM IN ALEXANDRIA
TOMORROW BEFORE I LEAVE THE FOLLOWING DAY. I AGREED TO DO SO.

4. AS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST, FAHMY EXPECTS TO STAY IN ALEXANDRIA
FOR ABOUT A WEEK OR MORE. ARAFAT IS EXPECTED IN THE NEXT DAY OR
SO AND PROBABLY BOUMEDIENNE AS WELL. IN ADDITION MEXICAN PRESIDENT
ECHEVERRIA MAKES HIS OFFICIAL VISIT HERE AUG 4-7. FAHMY SAYS THE
PRESIDENT WILL RECEIVE ALL OF THESE VIPS IN ALEXANDRIA RATHER
THAN IN CAIRO.

5. SO FAR AS MY TRAVEL IS CONCERNED, I REMAIN BOOKED
ON YUGOSLAV AIRWAYS ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 3. HOWEVER, SINCE THERE
IS NO CONVENIENT WAY OF GETTING BACK THE FOLLOWING DAY, MY DATT
IS LOOKING INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF ARRANGING FOR A USAF T-39
TO PICK ME UP IN BELGRADE AND FLY ME BACK TO CAIRO. TRUST
THIS GIVES YOU NO PROBLEM.

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UNQUOTE
INGERSOLL

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